



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/160,312 09/25/98 JINNO

Y 5586D-6921

EXAMINER

MM21/0919

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PARKER, K.
ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED:

09/19/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

See attached.

Art Unit: 2871

Regarding applicant's request of 8/4/00 for clarification on the restriction mailed 7/18/00, the following corrective action is taken: the restriction is re-presented below, without the opening paragraph of the previous restriction, which was extraneous. The period for response of 1 month set in the previous office action is reset to begin with the mailing date of this office action.

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-6, drawn to an LCD with particular features of input terminals, classified in subclass 154
 - II. Claims 7-14, drawn to an LCD and a method of making, involving the use of antistatic "regions", presumed to be something having to do with antistatic elements and classified in class 349, subclass 40.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and 2 are combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the distinctness of the each group can be used without the features of the other. The terminals can have a single layer structure, and no antistatic "region" is required.

Art Unit: 2871

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth Parker whose telephone number is (703) 305-6202. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7726. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or preceding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

September 15, 2000



KENNETH ALLEN PARKER
PATENT EXAMINER
GAU 2871